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Applicant: Chen
Serial No.: 09/746,476
Filed: December 21, 2000
Group Art Unit: 1711
Examiner: Bissett, Melanie D.
Title: COATED ARTICLE WITH POLYMERIC BASECOAT

RESPONSE

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed on August 15, 2003. Claims 1-13 remain in this application. Please amend the claims as follows:

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AMENDMENT

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article having on at least a portion of a surface a multi-layer coating having the appearance of nickel comprising:

a layer comprised of polymer; and

a layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride where said nitrogen content of said refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride is from about 6 to about ~~[[4]]~~45 atomic percent, and said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride providing the appearance of a nickel color.

2. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 1 wherein said nitrogen content is from about 8 to about 35 atomic percent.

3. (ORIGINAL) The article of claim 1 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal or refractory metal is on said layer comprised of polymer.

4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal oxide or refractory metal alloy oxide is on said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 3 wherein a layer comprised of refractory metal oxide or refractory metal alloy oxide is on said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein a layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen is on said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 3 wherein a layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen is on said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An article having on at least a portion of a surface a multi-layer coating having the appearance of nickel comprising:

a layer comprised of epoxy urethane; and

a layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride where said nitrogen content of said refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride is from about 6 to about ~~[[4]]~~45 atomic percent.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein a layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal alloy, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen is on said layer comprised of refractory meal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 3 wherein a layer comprised of the reaction products of (i) refractory metal alloy, (ii) oxygen and (iii) nitrogen is on said layer comprised of refractory meal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 1 wherein said layer comprised of refractory metal nitride or refractory metal alloy nitride is one of zirconium nitride, titanium nitride, hafnium nitride, tantalum nitride, and zirconium-titanium alloy nitride.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 6 wherein said refractory metal is one of tantalum, hafnium, zirconium and titanium.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The article of claim 9 wherein said refractory metal alloy is zirconium-titanium alloy.